AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1-8 and add new claims 9-16 in accordance with the following list of claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A charging system comprising:

a plurality of client apparatuses ~~each of which is connected to a network~~;

a server apparatus which provides at least one service to said plurality of client apparatuses via a ~~said~~ network;

a charging apparatus connected to said network in order to ~~make a~~ charge said plurality of client apparatuses with respect to ~~regarding~~ the provision of said at least one service;

a plurality of first processing apparatuses which are ~~provided for~~ connected to said network in order to control the provision of said at least one service from said server apparatus to said client apparatuses and accumulate information for charging by said charging apparatus with respect to said at least one service when said at least one service is provided to said client apparatuses via said first processing apparatuses; and

a second processing apparatus which has a cyclic unit which includes a circulation list specifying a circulation order and which circulates among said plurality of first processing apparatuses via said ~~network, collects~~ network in accordance with said circulation order in order to collect the information for charging accumulated in each of said first processing apparatuses ~~by the circulation of said cyclic unit, and provides said collected information for charging to said charging apparatus~~.

2. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein said cyclic unit is a first cyclic unit corresponding to a first one of the at least one service, said second processing apparatus has ~~the cyclic unit for each service content~~ at least one second cyclic unit corresponding to a second one of the at least one service, and said first and at least one second cyclic units each collect ~~cyclic unit corresponding to each of said service content collects~~ said information for charging in said plurality of first

processing apparatuses, ~~respectively~~ for its corresponding service.

3. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 2, wherein ~~in~~ each of said cyclic units of the second processing ~~apparatus, times~~ specifies a different time to start ~~the~~ its circulation among said plurality of first processing apparatuses ~~are different~~.

4. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein said ~~second processing apparatus has at least one cyclic unit corresponding to each of~~ at least one service is a plurality of ~~service content~~ services, and said cyclic unit is a single cyclic unit that collects said information for charging accumulated in said plurality of first processing apparatuses for every one of said ~~service content~~ plurality of services.

5. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim ~~1~~ 4, wherein each of said first processing ~~apparatus~~ apparatuses accumulates said information for charging of said plurality of services.

6. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein said first processing apparatus controls the provision of said at least one service ~~services~~ to one of said client apparatuses from said server apparatus with reference to an amount of money which has been predetermined by said one client apparatus for the purpose of providing said ~~services~~ at least one service.

7. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein said first processing apparatus controls the provision of said at least one service ~~services~~ to one of said client apparatuses from said server apparatus with reference to a time which has been predetermined by said one client apparatus for the purpose of providing said at least one service ~~services~~.

8. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, further comprising a management terminal ~~which controls the operation of at least one of said first~~

~~processing apparatuses and said second processing apparatus~~ connected to the second processing apparatus for inputting the circulation list and other information for controlling operation of the charging system.

9. (New) A system according to claim 1, wherein each of said first processing apparatuses is connected to at least one of said plurality of client apparatuses.

10. (New) A system according to claim 9, wherein each first processing apparatus generates the information for charging with respect to the at least one client apparatus to which it is connected.

11. (New) A system according to claim 1, wherein said cyclic unit further returns to said second processing apparatus carrying said accumulated information for charging collected from said first processing apparatuses.

12. (New) A system according to claim 11, wherein said second processing apparatus further provides said collected information for charging to said charging apparatus.

13. (New) A system according to claim 1, wherein said first processing apparatuses are router apparatuses and said second processing apparatus is a managing apparatus which has a function of managing the charging system.

14. (New) A system according to claim 1, wherein said second processing apparatus further has a storage unit, the circulation list further being stored in said storage unit.

15. (New) A system according to claim 1, wherein said circulation list further specifies a circulation period for circulation of the cyclic unit among the plurality of first processing apparatuses.

16. (New) A system according to claim 1, wherein said circulation list further specifies beginning times at which circulation of the cyclic unit begins at a first one of the plurality of first processing apparatuses.